



# FREEDOM WATCH



July 23, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

## News briefs

(Compiled from  
CNN.com)

### WorldCom files for bankruptcy

**NEW YORK** — WorldCom, the nation's No. 2 long distance phone company, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection late Sunday, nearly one month after it revealed that it had improperly booked \$3.9 billion in expenses. WorldCom, crushed by its \$41 billion debt load, made its filing in the Southern District of New York. With \$107 billion in assets, WorldCom's bankruptcy is the largest in United States history, dwarfing that of Enron Corp.

### Oregon wildfire has mile-long front

**PORTLAND, Ore.** — An 87,000-acre wildfire burned along a mile long front Sunday, threatening about 60 homes, and the number of firefighters assigned to the blaze nearly doubled. A voluntary evacuation order remained in effect for the

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## eArmyU expanding to 3 more installations

*Army News Service*

**ALEXANDRIA, Va.** — Soldiers at three more installations, including one in Korea, will have the opportunity to enroll in eArmyU online college courses during August.

Fort Drum, N.Y., and Camp Casey, Korea, will begin enrollment

for eArmyU on Aug. 5. The program will become available at Fort Bragg, N.C., on Aug. 12.

Since its inception in January 2001, the eArmyU distance-learning program has grown from three installations to 11. Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Campbell, Ky.; and Fort Hood, Texas, were the first three

posts to implement eArmyU. Then Fort Carson, Colo., and Fort Lewis, Wash., began offering the program through their education centers. Posts in Alaska and Hawaii and the Heidelberg community in Germany now also have the program.

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## Congressmen meet Afghanistan veterans

Story & photos by Staff Sgt.

Marcia Triggs

*Army News Service*

**WASHINGTON** — A bullet-proof vest that stopped a round from piercing the heart of an Army private was one piece of equipment congressmen were introduced to during a display on Capitol Hill July 16 and 18.

Interceptor Body Armor reportedly saved the life of Pfc. Jason Ashline, a Fort Drum, N.Y., soldier who was shot during Operation Anaconda. Ashline was among other Afghanistan veterans who talked about their weapons and experiences during the Fourth Annual Soldier Systems Days.

The event help members of Congress understand why the president said there's a need for large increases in Department of Defense funding, said Rep. Joseph Pitts of Pennsylvania.

"This let's us meet real people and see the real tools they're using on the battlefield," Pitts said.

Rifles that can be programmed to pinpoint where rounds are shot,



Sgt. 1st Class Tony Husen, from Training and Doctrine Command, describes what the Land Warrior's Global Positioning System is for Rep. Joseph Pitts of Pennsylvania and his intern, Christine Carey. The GPS is an integrated computer/radio subsystem that gives the soldier still video and night vision capability, infrared targeting and a heads-up display.

a mini-refrigeration system that cools the body, and the "Land Warrior" system were the most popular displays.

One weapons system, the "Objective Crew Served Weapon," can be programmed to accurately hit and explode to spray lethal shrap-

nel, said Lt. Col. Rob Carpenter, a product manager for small arms.

"Weighing 38 pounds, about 100 pounds less than current systems, the crew served weapon has greater range capability," Carpen-

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eARMYU, from Page 1

More than 23,600 soldiers are now enrolled in eArmyU and 52 have completed degrees so far through the program.

The eArmyU portal provides access to degree programs at more than 20 colleges and universities. Two-thirds of the soldier-students are pursuing associates degrees, 23 percent pursuing bachelors degrees, two percent pursuing mas-

ters degrees and five percent are pursuing post-secondary certificates, officials said.

Soldiers who enroll in eArmyU are furnished with a laptop computer, printer, 24-hour-a-day technological support, mentoring, tutoring, counseling and academic advising, an e-mail account and Internet access. They are also provided with 100 percent tuition assistance as well as coverage of books and course fees.

The eArmyU education partnership currently consists of a collaboration of regionally accredited colleges and universities, officials said, as well as hardware and software providers. The program offers soldiers more than 90 online post-secondary degree and certificate programs and 4,000 courses. The eArmyU distance-learning portal is designed, built and operated by PwC Consulting, a business of Pricewaterhouse-

Coopers.

The eArmyU program has received numerous awards including the eGov 2001 Pioneer Award, the Government Technology Leadership Award and most recently, the 2002 Federal Government Information Processing Council Intergovernmental Solutions Award.

(Editor's note: Information provided by the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command Public Affairs Office.)

## SECAF, CSAF: Gender irrelevant to mission accomplishment

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez  
*Air Force Print News*

**WASHINGTON** — The importance of women in today's Air Force is not lost on Air Force senior leadership. In fact, said the service's chief of staff recently, women have played key roles in the Air Force's performance over the past decade.

"We've won three wars in the last 10 years," said Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John P. Jumper during an interview taped for the July 22 and Aug. 5 editions of Air Force Television News. "We had plenty of women not just flying the airplanes, but fixing the airplanes, guarding the gate and in all roles."

According to Air Force Personnel Center demographics, the population of women in the Air Force has increased from 33,000 in 1975 to more than 70,000. As a

result, women now serve in nearly every Air Force career field, including such traditionally male-dominated career fields as aircraft maintenance.

"I visited some (B-1 Lancers) overseas in the gulf," said Secretary of the

Air Force Dr. James G. Roche. "I remember a young mechanic...I said, 'How about these engines?' She said, 'If you say anything bad about these engines, you deal with me.' And I looked down at her with her three stripes, and I said, 'Yes, ma'am!'"

"Absolutely impressive."

The number of women in the cockpit has also increased. The 458 female pilots account for about 3.7 percent of the total pilots in the service. Less

than 10 years ago, that figure was only 1.6 percent.

*"If you want to fly an airplane, and that's your passion, it shouldn't matter what your gender is."*

— Gen. John P. Jumper,  
Chief of Staff of the Air Force

gender to the pilot career field.

"I've flown against some of the (female) fighter pilots before, and they do a magnificent job," he said. "If you want to fly an airplane, and that's your passion, it shouldn't matter what your gender is."

Roche agreed.

"The intellectual content of what we do is so high that (gender) makes no difference," the secretary said. "(We have) a force where there is room for people based on their merit."

VETERANS, from Page 1

ter said. "I'm also reducing the total number of rounds I need to carry because I can be more accurate with the rounds I have."

The lightweight machine gun should be fielded in 2008, Carpenter said.

A system designed to lower the body temperature of air crews dressed in multi-layered flight suits is already in operational testing within the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, said Tim Jones a logistician for Aircrew Integrated Systems.

The "Microclimate Cooling System" pumps water through a tube to a garment for relief in hot operating environments. Officials said it's easier to cool from the inside out instead of the outside in.

The cooling system is scheduled to be fielded in fiscal year 2003, Jones said.

The "Land Warrior," which is usually the main attraction at the Soldier Systems display, is the infantryman's integrated

fighting system.

Land Warrior provides improved situational awareness, overmatching lethality, high levels of protection and rapid digital and voice communications, said Spc. Christopher Bashaw, a land warrior subject matter expert from the Training and Doctrine Command. He said the system is scheduled to be fielded to ranger regiments in fiscal year 2004.

Many of the congressmen and staffers said the display was exactly what they needed to see during wartime.

"I'm an appropriator, and we have very in-depth and sometimes confrontational debates over what the national priorities ought to be and how we're to spend the taxpayers dollars," said Rep. John Sweeney of New York, who also came to the display to personally meet Ashline.

"Private Ashline is living proof that the investments we're making today are having a real impact, not only on preserving freedom but in preserving the lives of America's most important assets," Sweeney said.

# HIND SIGHT

1798

Napoleon captures Alexandria, Egypt

1829

William Austin Burt patents "typographer" (typewriter)

1880

First commercial hydroelectric power plant begins,  
Grand Rapids, Mich

1944

US forces invade Japanese-held  
Tinian in WW II

1984

Vanessa Williams, first black Miss America, resigns  
due to posing nude

1989

FOX-TV tops ABC, NBC & CBS for 1st time  
(America's Most Wanted)

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threatened homes near Summer Lake, and several homes in the Silver Lake area also were in danger, said David Widmark, a spokesman at the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center.

## Philippine protests as president speaks

**MANILA, Philippines** — Under heavy police guard, Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo gave her state of the nation address before a joint session of the legislature. As 500 anti-riot police stood guard outside, Arroyo said the Philippine economy was the best in Southeast Asia and vowed to keep up the pressure on terrorists and kidnappers within her country. Outside the congress, around 5,000 protesters gathered to demonstrate against Arroyo and in particular, the presence of U.S. troops in the southern Philippines.

## Man shot dead in Belfast

**BELFAST, Northern Ireland** — The victim, believed to be a Catholic in his early 20s, was shot in the Flora Road area in the early hours on Monday in what appears to have been a drive-by shooting. Shortly after the attack, a Catholic man was shot in the upper thigh in the nationalist Oldpark area. The shootings follow a series of violent clashes in north Belfast over the weekend in which an elderly disabled man narrowly escaped death when a petrol bomb was thrown into home as he slept.

# Local weather

## TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
<b><u>Bagram:</u></b>	<i>Mostly sunny</i> H: 97F L: 69F	<i>Mostly sunny</i> H: 100F L: 66F
<b><u>Khandahar:</u></b>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 102F L: 81F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 104F L: 72F
<b><u>Kabul:</u></b>	<i>Partly cloudy, rain</i> H: 85F L: 66F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 97F L: 68F
<b><u>Uzbekistan:</u></b>	<i>Clear</i> H: 96F L: 56F	<i>Clear</i> H: 98F L: 65F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

# FREEDOM WATCH

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- ❖ CJTF - 180 Commanding General — Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill
- ❖ CJTF - 180 Command Sergeant Major — Command Sgt. Maj. Steven R. England
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- ❖ Commander — Capt. Timothy Beninato
- ❖ NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Rhonda M. Lawson
- ❖ Editor — Sgt. Reebea Critser
- ❖ Sports Editor — Spc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.
- ❖ Journalists — Spc. Jason Allgood, Spc. Erica Leigh Foley, Pfc. Nathan Akridge and Pfc. Eleazar Craig.

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# COALITION SPORTSZONE

## The Day in Sports

### War Emblem owner dies of heart attack

**JIDDAH**, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Ahmed bin Salman was racing's prince charming — whether he was kissing the nose of his horse in the winner's circle, joking with jockeys about how famous he'd make them, or bantering with other owners as he outbid them for another prospect.

On Monday, the genial owner of Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner War Emblem died of a heart attack at age 43, shocking the thoroughbred racing world from boardrooms to barns.

A member of the Saudi royal family, Ahmed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz was a nephew of King Fahd and head of a publishing empire.

But horses were his lifelong passion, and War Emblem's wire-to-wire victory at the Kentucky Derby in May made Ahmed the first Arab to win America's most famous thoroughbred race.

His gregarious spirit and frequent laughter made him popular among jockeys and trainers, including Bob Baffert, who trained War Emblem and 2001 horse of the year Point Given for the prince.

"I'm in shock," Baffert told the industry publication The Blood Horse. "When you go through a Triple Crown together, you get really close. He was like family. His passion for horses was incredible — he lived and breathed them."

Point Given gave the prince's Bradbury, Calif.-based stable, The Thoroughbred Corp., its first Triple Crown wins in the Preakness and Belmont stakes last year.

### Celtics get Baker in five-player trade

**BOSTON** (AP) — The Boston Celtics acquired forward Vin Baker from Seattle on Monday in a five-player deal that sent point guard Kenny Anderson to the SuperSonics.

The Celtics also received guard Shammond Williams and traded center Vitaly Potapenko and guard Joseph Forte to the Sonics.

The deal brings Baker, a nine-year NBA veteran, back to New England. He was born in Connecticut and starred at the University of Hartford.

The Celtics hope it will revitalize the career of the 6-foot-11 Baker, who played in four consecutive All-Star games from 1995-98.

### Boston remembers Williams

Nomar Garciaparra, they all headed out to Williams' former domain to say goodbye. The Hub bid the Kid adieu a final time on Monday, as Red Sox fans came by the thousands to pay their respects to the team's greatest player at a pair of events honoring the baseball and war hero.

About 12,000 people came to the ballpark in the morning to meander around the warning track past mementos of Williams' Hall of Fame career.

At night, those artifacts came to life in the form of Red Sox greats from Carl Yastrzemski to Garciaparra and dignitaries such as John Glenn, the former senator and astronaut and Williams' squadron leader in Korea.

"Just saying his name means excellence in baseball," said Glenn, who flew more than a dozen missions with Williams.

"For me, Ted also stood for excellence in a setting far removed from baseball and for which he is less well-known. ... He never held back."

### 2002 Major League standings

American League East				GB
N.Y. Yankees	62-36	.633	-	
Boston	57-39	.594	4	
Baltimore	47-49	.490	14	

American League Central				GB
Minnesota	59-41	.590	-	
Chicago (AL)	46-54	.460	13	
Kansas City	43-55	.439	15	

American League West				GB
Seattle	60-38	.612	-	
Anaheim	57-39	.594	2	
Oakland	58-41	.586	2.5	

National League East				GB
Atlanta	64-35	.646	-	
N.Y. Mets	50-48	.510	13.5	
Montreal	49-49	.500	14.5	

National League Central				GB
St. Louis	53-42	.558	-	
Cincinnati	51-47	.520	3.5	
Houston	47-42	.485	7	

National League West				GB
Arizona	57-41	.582	-	
Los Angeles	56-42	.571	1	
San Francisco	55-42	.567	1.5	

### Monday's results

Toronto 6-3 Baltimore  
 Chicago Cubs 7-6 Philadelphia  
 Minnesota 11-6 Chicago W. Sox  
 Florida 2-1 Atlanta  
 Pittsburgh 6-5 Cincinnati  
 N.Y. Mets 5-2 Montreal  
 Houston 3-1 Milwaukee  
 San Diego 5-2 Los Angeles  
 Arizona 5-1 Colorado  
 St. Louis 3-1 San Francisco, Btm 8th

### Today schedule

Tampa Bay at Boston  
 Philadelphia at Chicago Cubs  
 Toronto at Baltimore  
 NY Yankees at Cleveland  
 Kansas City at Detroit  
 Atlanta at Florida  
 Tampa Bay at Boston  
 Pittsburgh at Cincinnati  
 Montreal at NY Mets  
 Minnesota at Chicago Sox  
 Milwaukee at Houston  
 Oakland at Anaheim  
 Texas at Seattle  
 Los Angeles at San Diego  
 Colorado at Arizona  
 St. Louis at San Francisco